

REMARKS

By this amendment, claim 1 has been amended and claims 24 and 25 have been added. Support for the changes to claim 1 can be found throughout the specification as originally filed, for example, at page 5, line 25 – page 6, line 28, and FIG. 1. Support for new claim 24 can be found throughout the specification as originally filed, for example, at page 5, lines 31-35. Support for new claim 25 can be throughout the specification as originally filed, for example, at page 8, lines 11-18. Claims 3, 12-15, and 17-23 stand withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 16, 24, and 25 are presented for further examination.

The objection to claim 1 and the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, is believed overcome by the foregoing amendments. Specifically, the phrase “at least one of said switches are connected on each side of said circuit elements” has been deleted from claim 1. Regarding the phrase “switches for connecting each of said circuit elements”, the Office Action asserts, “It is not clear what the switches are connecting the said circuit elements to.” (Page 2).

The Office Action also asserts,

More over the above recitation is vague and indefinite on the additional ground that it does not particularly point out nor does it distinctly claim what the Applicants regard as “connecting.” A connection is made between two points that are connected to each other and here it is not clear which two points or two objects are connected to each other.

(Page 2). Claim 1 has been amended to further recite that an input terminal and an output terminal of each circuit element have respectively a switch connecting an adjacent circuit element on a row in series and a switch connecting an

adjacent circuit element on a column in parallel. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection and the rejection are respectfully requested.

The rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,271,728 ("Wallace"), and the rejection of claims 4-11 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over Wallace in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,287,951 ("Lucas"), are respectfully traversed with respect to the amended claims.

Applicants respectfully submit that the structural features of claim 1, as amended, are not disclosed or suggested by either of the cited references. In particular, neither Wallace, which relates to MMIC circuits, nor Lucas, which relates to a method for forming semiconductor device interconnects, discloses an array for producing a Micro Electro Mechanical System (MEMS) device comprising various types of circuit elements including a plurality of circuit elements of each type and switches for connecting each of said circuit elements, wherein ***said circuit elements are arranged in rows and columns, and an input terminal and an output terminal of each circuit element have respectively a switch connecting an adjacent circuit element on a row in series and a switch connecting an adjacent circuit element on a column in parallel,*** and some of said circuit elements are interconnected by determining open or close of all of said switches so as to make a circuit.

Applicants additionally respectfully submit that neither Wallace nor Lucas discloses that: (1) the circuit elements are formed by utilizing the

semiconductor wafer process, as recited in new claim 24; or (2) the circuit elements are passive circuit elements, as recited in new claim 25. A "passive circuit element" is a generic term of a circuit element such as L, C, and R.

In view of the foregoing, the application is respectfully submitted to be in condition for allowance, and prompt favorable action thereon is earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #101249.55749US).

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Respectfully submitted,



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